

MAR. 22. 2004 2:52PM

ABBOTT LABS

NO. 3418 P. 1



OFFICIAL

Legal Division
Patents & Trademarks

Abbott Laboratories
100 Abbott Park Road
Abbott Park, IL 60064-3500

Telephone: (847) 935-1729
FAX: (847) 938-2623

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

OFFICIAL DOCUMENT!

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

MAR 22 2004

DATE: March 22, 2004

TO: **Examiner A. Harris**
Group Art Unit 1642
United States Patent & Trademark Office

FAX NUMBER: (703) 872-9306

FROM: Cheryl L. Becker
Senior Counsel – Reg. No. 35,441
Abbott Laboratories
Patents and Trademarks Department
D-377, AP-6A

RE: U.S. Patent Appln. Ser. No. 09/549,342
Title: REAGENTS AND METHODS USEFUL FOR DETECTING DISEASES
OF THE REPRODUCTIVE TISSUES
Our Ref.: 5972.US.P6

MESSAGE:

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED DOCUMENT.

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): 2
IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL OF THE PAGES, PLEASE CALL (847) 937-6369.

THIS TRANSMISSION IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE INDIVIDUAL(S) TO WHOM IT IS ADDRESSED. It may contain confidential information, attorney work product, or other privileged material. If you are not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this transmission is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify us immediately by telephone at (847) 937-6369 and return the transmission to us at the address listed above.

©Abbott Laboratories, 1991. All rights reserved.

#25
4/6/04

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: T.L. Colpitts, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/549,342

Filed: April 13, 2000

For: REAGENTS AND METHODS USEFUL
FOR DETECTING DISEASES OF THE
REPRODUCTIVE TISSUES

Attorney Docket No.: 5972.US.P6

Examiner: A. Harris

Group Art Unit: 1642

Certificate of Facsimile Transmission:I hereby certify that this paper (along with any
paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is
being sent by facsimile transmission to the number
shown below on the date shown below:Examiner A. Harris
Group Art Unit 1642
Commissioner for Patents

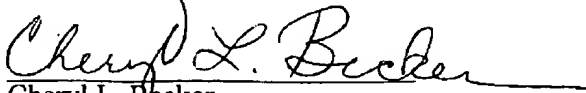
Fax No.: (703) 872-9306

 3/22/04
Cheryl L. Becker Date**STATUS INQUIRY REGARDING EXAMINER'S ANSWER**Attn: Examiner A. Harris
Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

An Appeal Brief was filed in connection with the above-referenced case on January 15, 2003. A Notice of Non-Compliance With 37 CFR 1.192(c) was then issued by the Patent Office, dated March 27, 2003, indicating that the Appeal Brief had not been filed in triplicate. A Response to the Notice of Non-Compliance was then filed on April 24, 2003, along with three copies of the Appeal Brief. However, as of the present date, an Examiner's Answer has not been received in response to the Appeal Brief. Thus, Applicants' attorney respectfully requests immediate information concerning the status of the Examiner's Answer.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning the above, she is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
T.L. Colpitts, *et al.*ABBOTT LABORATORIES
Customer No.: 23492
Telephone: (847) 935-1729
Facsimile: (847) 938-2623
Cheryl L. Becker
Registration No. 35,441
Attorney for Applicants